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LIVE WITH IT.
THE GUILT OF
WHAT YOUR FAMILY
DID...TO MY
FAMILY...



FOR
WHAT YOUR
FAMILY'S
DONE.

YOUR
FATHER WAS
A...A THIEF. HE
PUT HUNDREDS OF
PEOPLE OUT OF
WORK. HE RUINED
FAMILIES. RUINED
LIVES.

AND YOUR
MOTHER...HELPED
DESTROY THE
GLADES.



YOU THINK--
YOU THINK
YOU'RE SOME
SOME HERO
NOW.

YOU THINK...
WHATEVER YOU
DO...IN THAT
HOOD...

IT CAN'T
MAKE UP FOR
WHAT...FOR
WHAT YOU'VE
DONE.



BUT I BET...I
BET THEY KNEW
WHO THEY
WERE.

NOT LIKE
YOU.



I KNOW
WHO YOU WERE
BEFORE THAT
BOLT WENT
DOWN.

SELFISH.
ONLY OUT
FOR...FOR
YOURSELF.



NO HOOD...
NO MASK
CAN CHANGE
THAT.

I TRIED
TO KILL YOU,
BUT...BUT I
COULDN'T. SO
YOU LIVE.



YOU LIVE WITH
WHO YOU ARE.
YOU LIVE...LIVE
WITH WHAT
YOU...



LET ME
TALK TO MY
FATHER,
SARA...

AND SAY
WHAT?



THAT I WILL GO
TO STARLING
CITY IN YOUR
PLACE.

YOU'RE
SWEET,
NYSSA...



BUT I CAN
MORE THAN
TAKE CARE
OF MYSELF.

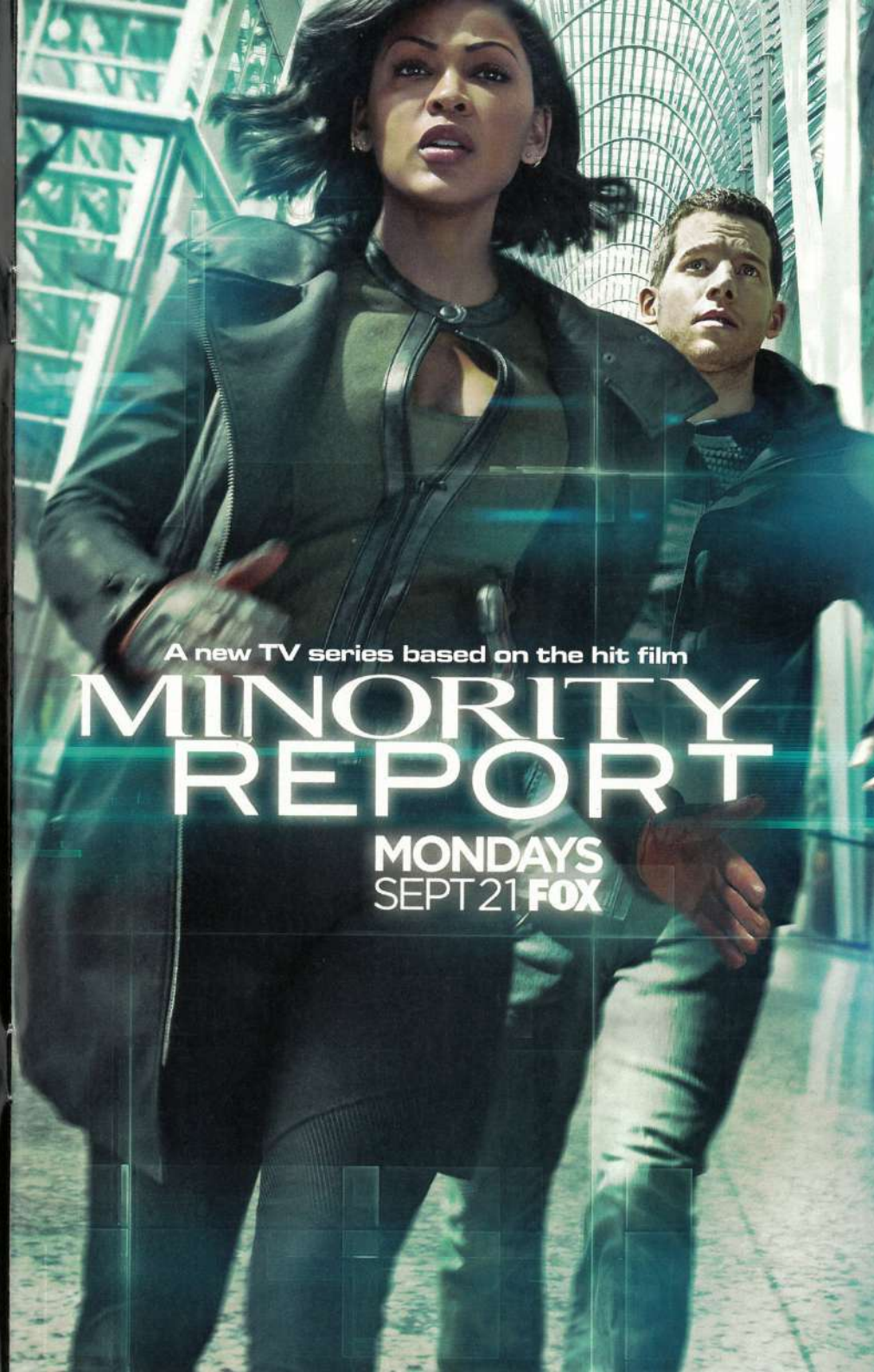


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HANG ON A SEC. I DON'T MEAN TO BE THE GRAMMAR NAZI HERE, BUT I'VE GOT TO QUIBBLE WITH YOUR WHOLE USE OF THE PRESENT TENSE, JUST THEN.

YOU'RE NOT SELFISH OR SELF-CENTERED, OLIVER.



*YOU'VE BEEN GIVING YOURSELF OVER TO THIS CITY FOR OVER TWO YEARS NOW.



*ER, TOUGH PLATONIC LOVE, I MEAN, AS FRIENDS, FRIENDLY.

*UGH. I WISH I COULD SEW MY LIPS CLOSED. IS THERE ANYONE WHO REALLY DOES THAT?

ALEX KASSAR.

HE CONTROLS ALL THE CORNERS FROM 15TH UP TO CANNELL.

A DRUG DEALER.

MORE LIKE A ONE-MAN CONGLOMERATE.



SUIT UP.



*LOOK, HERE'S THE POINT I'M REALLY TRYING TO MAKE--

*YOU'RE A HERO.



*MAYBE YOU WEREN'T BEFORE.

*CALEB GREEN WAS RIGHT ABOUT WHO YOU WERE BEFORE THE QUEEN'S GAMBIT WENT DOWN.

*BUT SINCE THEN, YOU'VE BECOME SOMEONE ELSE.



*YOU'VE BECOME SOMETHING ELSE."



*YOU'VE SAVED HUNDREDS OF LIVES.



*INCLUDING MINE."



GREEN SAID IT DIDN'T MATTER HOW MANY PEOPLE I SAVED, I WAS STILL ME.

AND YOU BELIEVED HIM?

A GRADE-A MIRAKURU-SPIKED WHACKADOODLE?

YOU REALLY MIGHT BE TOO DUMB TO GET YOUR FAMILY'S COMPANY BACK.

HEY--

TOUGH LOVE.



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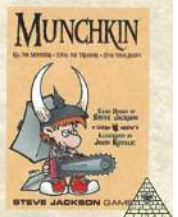
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"AND YOU HAVE TO ADMIT, IT'S A PRETTY AMAZING CITY."



HELLO, MISS LANCE.



I DON'T BELIEVE WE'VE MET.

MY NAME IS MALCOLM MERLYN.



THEN YOU'RE THE MAN I'M HERE TO KILL.



YES, YOUR SURVEILLANCE OF ME HAS BEEN... SLOPPY.

BUT YOU'RE NOT GOING TO KILL ME.



YOU'RE GOING TO SOLVE A PROBLEM FOR ME.

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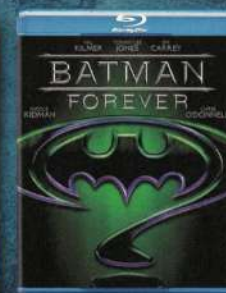
"HAVE YOU HEARD FROM YOUR SISTER LATELY?"

"BATKID SAVED A CITY AND CHARMED THE WORLD."

— Bryan Alexander, USA TODAY



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NO, SHE SAID SHE WAS GOING ON A MISSION FOR THE LEAGUE.

THAT ALMOST SOUNDS NORMAL.
WHY COULDN'T SARA HAVE JOINED THE LEAGUE OF ACCOUNTANTS?



YOU NEED TO STOP WORRYING ABOUT HER.

I WOULD IF SHE JOINED THE LEAGUE OF ACCOUNTANTS.

DAD, SARA HAS SURVIVED THINGS WE CAN'T EVEN IMAGINE.



"SHE'S BEYOND FORMIDABLE."

"SHE'S GOT REAL STEEL INSIDE OF HER."



SHE GETS THAT FROM YOU.

AND YEARS OF TRAINING UNDER KAT'S AL GHUL.

THANKS, BUT I'M HER DAD. WORRYING'S IN THE JOB DESCRIPTION.



I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'D DO--HONEST TO GOD--I DON'T KNOW WHAT'D HAPPEN TO ME IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO EITHER OF YOU.



SPREAD THE WORD...



...THE LOS HALCONES AREN'T WELCOME IN STARLING CITY.



OUCH. THAT'S GOTTA HURT.

THWICK



I THINK YOU CAN TAKE THE LOS HALCONES OFF THE BOARD. LIKE, ALL OF THEM.

THEY'LL BE BACK. THE LOS HALCONES ARE THE COCKROACHES OF STREET GANGS.



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JOHN SEMPRIT - CEO of Fractured Pixels
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STEVE BISSETTE - Swamp Thing, Tyrant
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...EACH DRUG DEALER...



...MOBSTER...



...AND PSYCHO...



...HE GETS FURTHER AND FURTHER AWAY FROM THE MAN HE WAS BEFORE THE ARROW.



OR SO YOU THINK.

ARE YOU DONE PSYCHOANALYZING ME?

THE NIGHT'S YOUNG.



I'M FINE, JOHN.



YOU'RE LIVING IN THE FOUNDRY, TRAINING AND SLEEPING DURING THE DAY, BEATING THE STREETS--AND ANY CRIMINALS ON THEM--AT NIGHT.

IT'S NOT GOOD FOR YOU, MAN. YOU NEED SOME *BALANCE*.



I'M FINE.



IF I HAD A NICKEL FOR EVERY TIME YOU'VE TOLD ME THAT WHEN IT WASN'T TRUE, I COULD BUY YOUR COMPANY BACK FOR YOU.



WELL, THERE YOU GO. THE COMPANY.

FELICITY'S BEEN HELPING ME STUDY UP. WE'RE GONNA MAKE A PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD AND I'M GETTING IT BACK.

THERE'S YOUR BALANCE.



OLIVER... YOU'RE NOT GETTING YOUR FAMILY'S COMPANY BACK.



WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

GREEN HELD UP A MIRROR TO YOU, TO YOUR OLD LIFE, AND YOU'VE BEEN RUNNING FROM THAT IMAGE FOR THE PAST MONTH.



I CAN'T THINK OF A BIGGER REMINDER OF THAT OLD LIFE THAN QUEEN CONSOLIDATED.

I'M SURE THERE'S A POINT IN THERE SOMEWHERE, BUT FOR THE LIFE OF ME, I CAN'T FIND IT.



YOU MAY THINK YOU WANT THE COMPANY BACK, BUT DEEP DOWN, YOU KNOW YOU'VE MOVED ON FROM IT.

IT'S MY FATHER'S LEGACY, JOHN.



SO WAS GREEN, IN A WAY.

THAT'S MY POINT: YOU'RE YOUR OWN MAN, CHARTING YOUR OWN COURSE.



JUST THINK ABOUT IT.

BZZZ



YEAH.



IT'S ME. ROY'S GOT SOMETHING...



I JUST TOOK DOWN THREE MEMBERS OF VINCENT STEELGRAVE'S CREW.



BEFORE FALLING UNCONSCIOUS, THEY HAD SOMETHING VERY INTERESTING TO SAY ABOUT AN ILLEGAL SHIPMENT OF RPGs.



WE'RE ON OUR WAY.



*MY NAME IS OLIVER QUEEN.



"AFTER FIVE YEARS IN HELL, I HAVE RETURNED HOME WITH ONLY ONE GOAL...



"...TO SAVE MY CITY.



"NOW, OTHERS HAVE JOINED MY CRUSADE.



"TO THEM, I'M OLIVER QUEEN.

"BUT TO THE REST OF STARLING CITY..."



"...I AM SOMEONE ELSE.



"I AM SOMETHING ELSE.



"I AM..."

"...THE ARROW."

GREEN "Prologue"

MARC GUGGENHEIM - SCRIPT
JOE BENNETT - PENCILS
CRAIG YEUNG - INKS
JIM CHARALAMPIDIS - COLOR
DERON BENNETT - LETTERS
BRITTANY HOLZHERR - ASSISTANT EDITOR
ALEX ANTONE - EDITOR

TO BE CONTINUED IN ARROW SEASON THREE...

ARE **YOU** READY FOR

GENE YANG & JOHN ROMITA, JR.

THE CREATIVE TEAM BEHIND **SUPERMAN?**



Gene, and John, how does it feel to be working on one of the most—if not the most—iconic superheroes in the world?

Gene: Let's not pull any punches here—Superman is THE superhero. He established the genre. I've been a superhero fan for all my life, so writing Superman has been both amazing and amazingly nerve-racking. Also, Superman is greater than Batman. THAT'S RIGHT, I SAID IT.

John: The best part of working on such an iconic character is the challenge. It's been done by so many amazing artists, that the challenge of doing something different and better is nearly impossible. So it's like walking a tightrope with no net!

Gene, you've mentioned being a fan of John's. How does it feel to actually be working with him?

Gene: AWESOME. When I was in high school, I used to go to local comic conventions and line up to get John's autograph. Working with him now is more than a dream come true. If I could go back in time to tell my 14-year-old self that this gig would be in his future, my 14-year-old-self would have completely freaked out.

How has it been working with Gene, who is a new voice to superhero comics?

John: Working with Gene is a lot like my foray into working on Superman: challenging. Gene has amazing stories and amazing ideas that makes thing challenging for me, in that I have to do justice to his plots. That's true of all writers, but Gene brings a complete "newness" to this title.

What aspects of Clark's, or Superman's, personality do you both identify with the most?

Gene: Superman never gives up, no matter how bad things get. I don't necessarily identify with that, but it's what I aspire to.

John: Identify with Clark? Hmmmm, let me think, a 6'5", 250 pound, black-haired, blue-eyed, straight-nosed, chiseled out of rock, male model-looking alien, with a boy scout-esque, "I want to save the world at any cost" attitude? Yep, that's me!



John Romita, Jr.

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Gene Yang



—David Hinckley, *NEW YORK DAILY NEWS*



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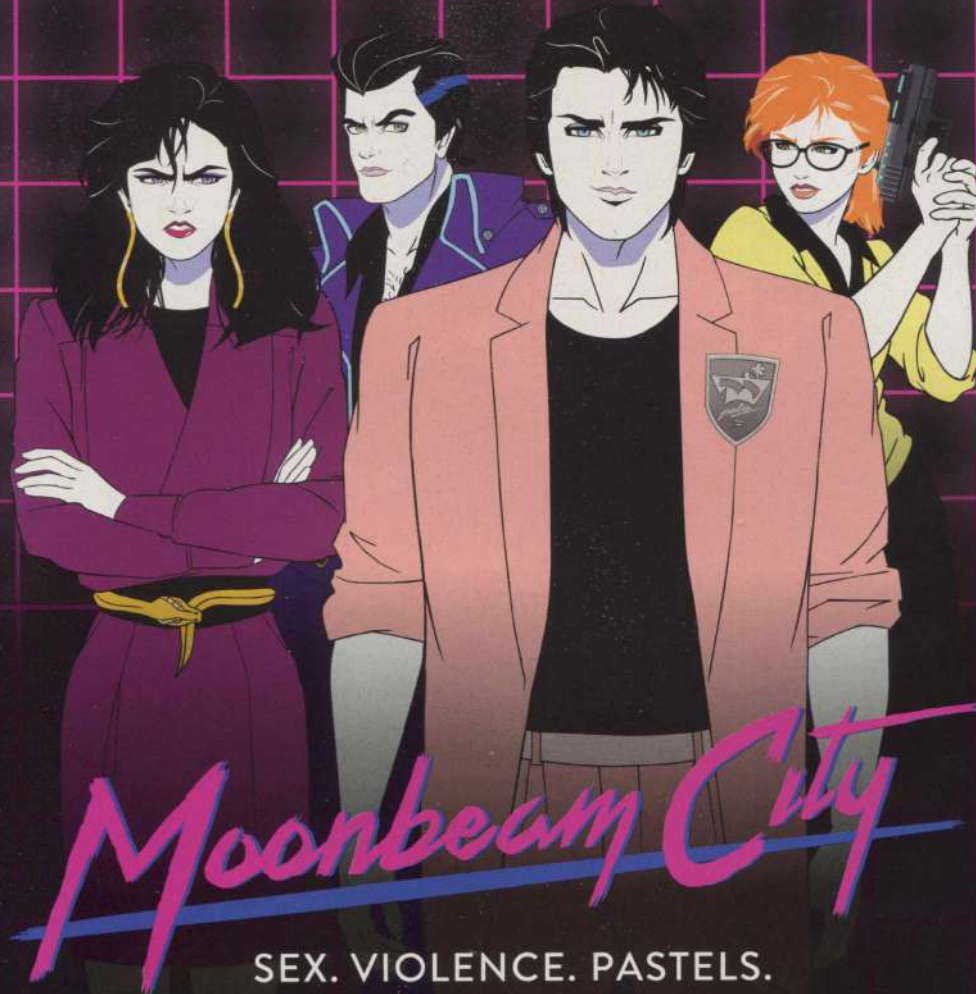


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